

Message Text

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ORIGIN NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 IO-14 ISO-00 SS-20 AID-20 DEAE-00 CIAE-00

INR-10 JUSE-00 NSAE-00 RSC-01 SNM-02 SY-10 TRSE-00

USIA-15 NSC-10 SCI-06 OMB-01 AGR-20 IGA-02 /144 R

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S/NM:NWARNER

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TREAS:MBACH (INFO)

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD

INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA

USMISSION GENEVA

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 222211

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: SNAR, PK

SUBJECT: NARCOTICS: PHASED BAN ON POPPY PRODUCTION

REF: A) STATE 209262 B) ISLAMABAD 9627

1. WE RECOGNIZE THAT REF B REPORTS PRELIMINARY SHARRING ON BOTH SIDES. NEVERTHELESS, THE APPARENT GAP BETWEEN PAKISTANI THINKING AND OUR MINIMUM POSITION AS SET OUT IN REF A SEEMS WIDE ENOUGH TO WARRANT CONSULTATION WITH YOU ON DIRECTION OF TALKS THUS FAR, SO THAT WE CAN AVOID GETTING SERIOUSLY OFF-COURSE.

2. PARTICULARLY DISTURBING IS JAFAREY AND ORAKZAI'S CONTENTION THAT "THERE ARE TOO MANY UNKNOWNNS TO REACH A SPECIFIC AGREEMENT ON A DETAILED PHASEOUT SCHEDULE AT THIS
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TIME." WE MAINTAIN THERE IS NO ALTERNATIVE TO AN AGREED

PHASEOUT SCHEDULE. "SPECIFICITY" WHICH WE SEEK IS ON IMPLEMENTATION OF A DETAILED SCHEDULE. NUMBERS OF ACRES, POUNDS OF PRODUCTS, AND UTILIZATION ARE LEGITIMATE SUBJECTS OF DISCUSSION, BUT UNDERTAKINGS ON THESE POINTS WILL NOT BE SUBJECT TO SERIOUS MONITORING. GOP PROMISES IN THESE AREAS ARE NOT SUFFICIENT TO ASSURE ADEQUATE PROGRAM IN ABSENCE OF COMMITMENT TO PHASEOUT SCHEDULE.

3. WE CONTINUE TO THINK THAT USG SHOULD NOT ASSOCIATE ITSELF WITH PROGRAM WHICH ENTAILS INDEFINITE CONTINUATION OF POPPY PRODUCTION. WE MUST HAVE AN AGREEMENT WHICH IS DEFENSIBLE BEFORE A CONCERNED PUBLIC AND A CONGRESS THAT MAY BE ATTRACTED TOWARD PUNITIVE MEASURES AGAINST STATES IT BELIEVES ARE NOT FULLY COOPERATIVE. THIS IS A POINT WE INTEND TO MAKE WITH AMBASSADOR SULTAN KHAN IN THE NEAR FUTURE.

4. WE SUGGEST THAT THIS MATTER BE RAISED WITH GOP AT APPROPRIATE POLITICAL LEVEL AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. CONTINUED DRIFT AT ORAKZAI/JAFAREY LEVEL INVITES ACCUMULATION OF FRUSTRATION AND INERTIA, AND RAISES THE POSSIBILITY THAT WE MAY END UP WITH NO AGREED PROGRAM AT ALL THIS YEAR.

5. WE WISH TO RAISE AGAIN OUR SERIOUS RESERVATIONS ABOUT LICENSING OF POPPY PRODUCTION FOR THE FIRST TIME IN MERGED AREAS. REF A ASKED SEVERAL QUESTIONS REGARDING THIS MATTER. THIS MOVE SEEMS TO US TO ENTAIL ONE STEP FORWARD, ONE STEP BACKWARD OPERATION, WITH LICENSING CUTBACK SOMEWHAT IN SETTLED AREAS WHILE AT THE SAME TIME BEING EXTENDED INTO ENTIRELY NEW GEOGRAPHICAL REGION. RUSH

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